(II) Up-grading the GOITO at Guahati to the level of Regional Director for better co-ordination for the North Eastern States.

(III) Inviting foreign media and Travel Agents/Tour Operators on fam trips to the North East.

(IV) *Additional Central Financial Assistance for use of Information* Technology in the field of tourism.

(b) Information on profits from tourism are not available as the profits accure to private sector enterprises.

(c) Central Financial Assistance is provided to the State Tourism in North East and other States for tourism infrastructure, for human resource development and promotion through fairs and festivals.

Prevention of Erosion in Diara Region, Bihar

†298. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to take permanent measures for preventing the erosion taking place every year at Diara region of the Ganga in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, the kind of safety measure proposed to be taken for prevention of erosion in Diara region; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Water Conservation Programme of Andhra Pradesh

299. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister in a recent visit to Andhra Pradesh was highly appreciative of the water conservation programme in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

†Origional notice of the question was received in Hindi.